

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 8 2002

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7000 1530 0006 1714 1730 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

In Reply Please Refer To: EPA File No: 1R-96-R1

Larry Charles, Sr. Executive Director O.N.E./C.H.A.N.E., Inc. 2065 Main Street Hartford, CT 06129

Re: <u>Title VI Complaint Regarding North Hartford Landfill, Hartford, Connecticut</u>

Dear Mr. Charles:

I was pleased to learn that you and Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Arthur J. Rocque recently signed an agreement committing to work together to resolve the concerns raised by O.N.E./C.H.A.N.E. regarding the practices and procedures of CTDEP for siting and permitting regulated facilities in Connecticut. I also note that the agreement includes O.N.E./C.H.A.N.E.'s decision to withdraw its Title VI complaint filed with EPA alleging discrimination by CTDEP. Therefore, in recognition that the claim was been withdrawn, OCR is closing its investigation into the allegation that CTDEP's procedures for siting facilities have a discriminatory effect on minority communities in the Hartford area because they do not provide for effective public notice or participation and do not allow meaningful public input.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact John Fogarty at (202) 564-8865 or fogarty.johnpc@epa.gov, or by mail at U.S. EPA, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (Mail Code 2261A), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20460.

Sincerely,

Karen D. Higginbotham

Acting Director

cc: Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

Robert Varney, Regional Administrator EPA Region I

Robert E. Fabricant, General Counsel Office of General Counsel (MC 2310A)

Sylvia Lowrance, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (MC 2201A)

Marianne Horinko, Assistant Administrator Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (MC 5101)

Barry Hill, Director Office of Environmental Justice (MC 2201A) Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

Rafael DeLeon, Associate General Counsel Civil Rights Law Office (MC2399A) Office of General Counsel

Marsha Minter, Special Assistant Office of the Administrator (MC 1103A)

Pam Hill, Title VI Coordinator EPA Region I